

REMARKS

This a preliminary amendment for the U.S. National Stage of PCT/DE 03/03069, filed Internationally on September 16, 2003.

New claims 16 to 29 have been added. These claims contain the subject matter of the amended claims filed in the International application, which were subject to the International Preliminary Examination. The original claims 1 to 15 have been canceled.

In addition, some changes have been made in the English translation of the amended claims to put the claims in a form that is more familiar in U.S. Patent Practice and that avoids wording that can lead to rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Particularly no non-statutory "use" claim has been filed. Instead the subject matter of the canceled "use" claim 15 is included in a claim for an optical element made with the optical material determined to be suitable by the method of new claim 16.


Also an abstract, which was not provided with the original English translation, has been provided. This abstract is based on the new method claim 16.

In addition, the specification has been amended so that it contains recommended section headings. Also some minor informalities in the original English translation have been corrected.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawing be further amended or corrected in formal respects to put this case in condition for final allowance, then it is requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing the case to allowance, he or she is invited to telephone the undersigned at 1-631-549 4700.

In view of the foregoing, favorable allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker,
Attorney for the Applicants
Reg. No. 27,233